

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Tenth Worcester Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Tenth Worcester Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.4% (524) reside in the Tenth Worcester Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (100) of Tenth Worcester Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 77.7% of admissions from the Tenth Worcester Representative District were male and 22.3% were female.
- Over 61.6% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 82.3% of admissions were white non-Latino, 2.7% were black non-Latino, 9.5% were Latino, 0.2% were Asians, and 5.3% were other racial categories.
- 66.6% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 16.8% were married, and 11.6% reported not to be married now.
- 23.1% of admissions had less than high school education, 54.8% completed high school, and 22.1% had more than high school education.
- 43.1% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 6.3% of those admitted were homeless.
- 9.5% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Tenth Worcester Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Tenth Worcester Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	437	370	145	105	33	83	57
FY '96	436	363	169	118	55	88	58
FY '97	519	431	177	117	65	104	77
FY '98	455	384	180	128	34	109	70
FY '99	455	389	151	112	41	90	68
FY '00	483	400	176	118	65	147	120
FY '01	524	378	155	147	42	205	158

- Since FY 1995, residents of Tenth Worcester Representative District reported a steady increase in heroin use, and a slight increase in alcohol use. Heroin use increased by 146% and alcohol use by 2%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting marijuana use increased by 6%, cocaine by 40%, and crack use 27%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Tenth Worcester Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	48.1%	36.5%	8.5%	3.8%	0.6%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While cocaine and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol, heroin and marijuana was higher within your District.